

CITY OF BURIEN, WASHINGTON

Art Commission MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 25, 2008

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Arts Commission Members Present:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelley Brittingham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laurie Haslund	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna DiFore	<input type="checkbox"/> Maureen Hoffmann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Yormark
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rochelle Flynn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dane Johnson	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Victoria Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy Justin	

Staff Present:

Debbie Zemke, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Manager
Gina Kallman, Cultural Arts Supervisor

Guests:

Jean Spohn, Chair of Burien Parks Board

Minutes

Meeting called to order.

October minutes approved.

Burien Parks Board Annual Update

Jean Spohn of the Burien Parks Board gave a brief history of the Parks Board and its projects for 2008. The Burien Parks Board was established to advise on new parks, primarily park planning and projects. At this time, the City does not have the money to purchase and create new parks, so the Parks Board is working on improvements and maintenance of the existing parks. In 2008, the Board worked with the City on the addition of Jacob Ambaum Park and a new parcel of land acquired at Seahurst Park. Also at Seahurst Park the City removed the seawall and constructed new restrooms. Matheson Park was opened, and efforts to remove invasive plants in the parks is ongoing. Dane mentioned that the Nature Consortium may provide volunteer assistance for plant removal. The Parks Board is also involved in an advisory capacity for the City's recreation programs. Rochelle and Parks Board member Gwen Benedict are planning a social event for January 15th for Parks Board and Arts Commission members. Dane and Kathy briefly spoke about B/IAS so that Jean can update the Parks Board on this new project.

Review 2009 Work Plan Draft

Dane asked if B/IAS could be incorporated into all aspects of the 2009 "Areas of Focus" (Commissioner's Work Plan). Debbie asked Commissioners to please give thought to the draft plan and to determine what areas they may wish to get involved with for next year. We'll finish discussion and vote on the plan at January's meeting.

AREAS OF FOCUS REPORTS

Visual Arts

Art Education-Laurie and Victoria met and talked about focusing on music programming for 2009. They will be researching what music programming the schools have at this time to see

what is needed in the future. Victoria also showed banners that were made in her class at the Puget Sound Skills Center, which is showcasing cultural diversity. These ideas can possibly be something that could be hung or displayed around Burien. Rochelle has invited a local group who have organized to bring music education back into the schools to come to a future Arts Commission meeting, but to date has yet to hear back from them.

Public Art- Dane asked all to references to the Passage artwork project be referred to as “B/ IAS” (Burien Interim Art Space) from now on. He then provided an update on the project:

The lighting will be available for B/IAS and they are working with 4-Culture on a grant for solar lighting.

Rushforth Construction has come on board and donated trenching work to create crescent planting areas. They are waiting to see if Rushforth will provide a crane for installing the sculpture.

4-Culture may also help fund art for 2009 as a \$10,000 grant to bring artists to create work for the space and provide funding for supplies. Dane and Kathy are looking at a San Francisco project called “Scrap Eden” where artwork was made from recycled materials. They are still working on obtaining water for the space to help maintain the plantings. Another sculpture, “Fire-Pod” ,will also be coming to B/IAS and has the possibility of being activated (with fire) if funds are found.

To provide plantings for the space, Kathy and Dane have brought a local nursery owner on board. Buphalo Tomkiewicz also works with Nature Consortium and will loan plant materials to B/ IAS for a year.

Kathy and Dane also have access to a flat bed that can be used as a stage for the opening event. Dane and Kathy are looking for partnerships with local theatre companies to have performers make use of the space during the year.

Dane and Kathy need a volunteer to help program the space. They will be hosting weekly meetings starting next week at 7 pm at Mick Kelly’s on Mondays. They are working on PR, have a designer doing a flyer and poster, and the web site will be up next week. They are working on promoting the January 3rd event at this time and having the artists at the event. The BAA will be donating \$1,000 to pay for fuel for the opening on January 3rd. Also needs is ½ cord of wood to light the Synapse sculpture. The opening will start at 4pm. An additional opening can be scheduled in April during the Town Square opening. December 6-7 is the first work party to layout the space from 9-4pm.

Performing and Literary Arts

Literary Arts Program-The literary arts group met with Gail Collins at Page 2 Books. Teen Parks staff Amanda Morales spoke about bringing information to the Teen Council about starting poetry slams and other events. The group wants to create a resource guide of what is happening in the literary arts in the area. One option is to partner with Burien 365 and B-Town Blog. The focus at this time is to research current literary programming and then look for holes and plug holes with new programming. The next meeting is planned for December.

All City Arts Events-

The Moshier Holiday Pottery Sale will be held on Saturday, December 6th, 10^{am}-3pm. The Empty Bowls Fund Raiser for the Highline Food Bank will be held Friday, January 30th from 11:30am-1:30pm and 4-8pm at the Moshier Art Center.

Special Projects

Burien Aesthetic Masterplan-Donna and Maureen worked with Steve Clark and the City Hall/Library designers to come up with phrasing ideas (statements) for the entry way of the new Library/City Hall. In an effort to answer the question “What is the spirit of Burien?”, they came up with a page of ideas. Some of the ideas include the following concepts: Responsive, neighborly, having a rich heritage and creative culture, and rooted in natural beauty. More information will be forthcoming

Celebrating Burien’s Cultural Identity- no report

Staff Report

Recap November ARTalk: Collaborative Marketing and Promotion: The presentation by Jennifer Rice was sponsored by 4 Culture and provided a volume of information on obtaining media coverage for local arts organizations. Unfortunately, the event didn’t achieve the goals of identifying if/what specific collaborative opportunities were available amongst the arts groups. The next event will pursue answers to the question on if/when these joint promotion and marketing opportunities can be pursued.

Upcoming Burien Art Happenings—Gina announced the December 21st Winter Solstice Fire Festival at Seattle Center and the December 7th premier of Highline High School-based independent film, “The Day My Parents Became Cool”, which will debut at the Northwest Film Forum on Capitol Hill. Shelley announced that New City Dance will be performing “The Nutcracker” at church in Des Moines on December 12th.

There will be no meeting in December.

Adjournment.